

Amendments to the Claims

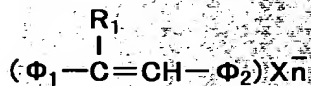
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ In an optical recording medium comprising an organic dye compound, the improvement wherein the organic dye compound is a styryl dye represented by Formula 1 and capable of recording which substantially absorbs a visible light with a wavelength of around 400 nm, said optical recording medium being constructed so as to record information by using a laser beam with a wavelength of 450 nm or shorter, said optical recording medium having at a recording level capacity of exceeding 4.7 GB (giga bytes) per one side by forming pits having a pit width of below 0.4 μm /pit and a track pit of below 0.74 μm when formed into a disk, 12 cm in diameter, ~~said styryl dye substantially absorbing a visible light with a wavelength of around 400 nm:~~

Formula 1:

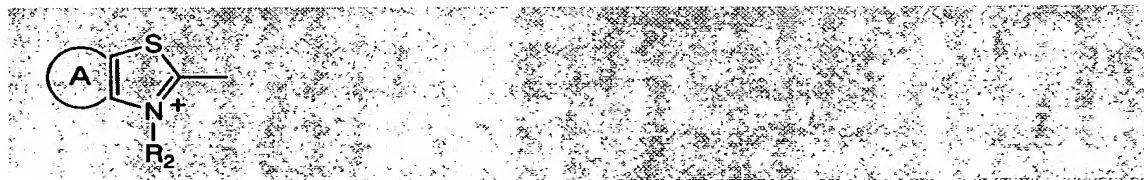


wherein in Formula 1, $\phi 1$ represents a heterocycle represented by any one of Formulae 2 to 8; $\phi 2$ represents an aromatic ring which has a substituent selected from the group consisting of halogen, cyano, nitro, and carboxy, or heterocycle having one or more nitrogen atoms; R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic hydrocarbon group, ether group, acyl group, halogen, or cyano group, and the aliphatic hydrocarbon group, ether group, or acyl group may have a substituent; X^- represents as a counter ion an azo organic metal complex ion; and "n" is a number of X^- to balance the electric charge in the styryl dye:

Formula 2:



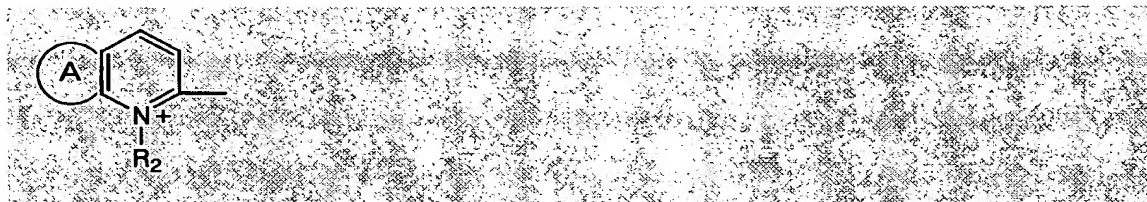
Formula 3:



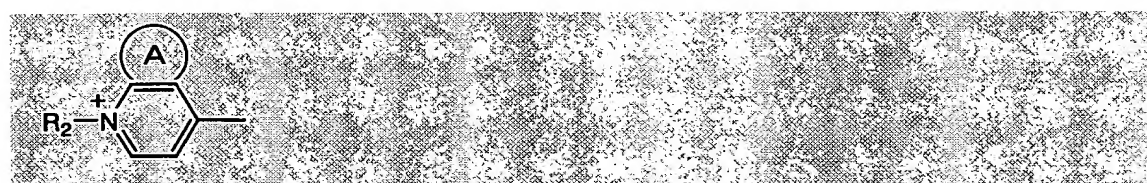
Formula 4:



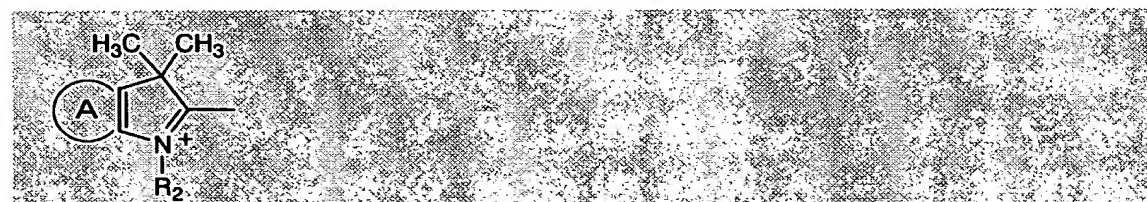
Formula 5:



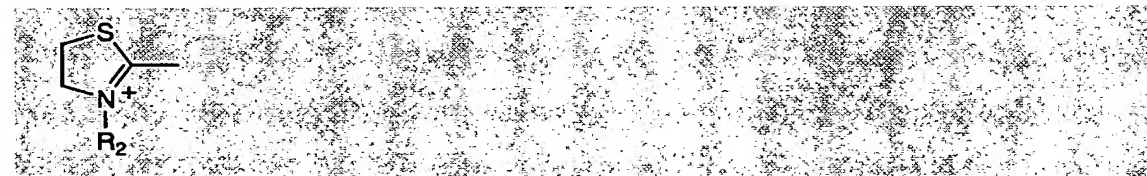
Formula 6:



Formula 7:



Formula 8:



throughout Formulae 2 to 7, A represents an optionally substituted monocyclic- or polycyclic-aromatic ring or heterocycle; when A is not present in Formulae 2 to 7, one or more substituents similar to those that are bound to A may be in the position where A is located; throughout Formulae 2 to 8, R₂

represents an optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon group and R_3 represents a hydrogen or an optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon group which is identical to or different from R_2 .

11. (Previously Presented) The optical recording medium of claim 10, which further contains one or more other organic dye compounds sensitive to a visible light.

Claims 12-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The optical recording medium of claim 11, which further contains one or more appropriate light-resistant improvers in a recording layer.

Claims 19-20. (Canceled)